ABSTRACT

In the distribution of broadcast messages in a communication system comprising one or more networks redundant distribution is reduced. Each network consists of two or more nodes interconnected by point-to-point links. When a broadcast message is received at a node, the node decides whether to send or not to send the broadcast message to other nodes. In the case where it decides not to send the broadcast message, the node avoids redundant distribution of the broadcast message by sending a cancellation of broadcast message to other nodes in the system. The message includes the broadcast message to be cancelled. The cancellation of broadcast message is then handled at nodes receiving the cancellation of broadcast message in special ways. The communication system can e.g. comprises two or more networks, and then some of the nodes are forwarding nodes, which tie the networks together and which are able to forward messages from one of the networks to another one. The nodes to which the cancellation of broadcast message is sent are then forwarding nodes.

(Fig. 6)